



## Newsletter Edition 18

### February 2010

1. We are pleased to welcome our new singers, Derek (tenor), Julie (soprano) and Carole (alto).
2. We are well advanced with planning for the **concert at Pirton on 6<sup>th</sup> March**, tickets will be available from Karen after half term. As the Gloria is coming along well we will also be singing some Madrigals which we will start to rehearse next week. Can people please come a few minutes early to collect their score and remember to pay Karen £1 hire fee?
3. As we lost our first rehearsal due to the weather we are having an additional one with John at **half term on 17<sup>th</sup> February**. We are going to use this to practise the Gloria and it will be particularly suitable for people who are new to the work and still need a little help with the notes and rhythms!
4. The vicar has confirmed that we can hold a **raffle** and Rachel is collecting prizes please. As the choir is now so big we thought we would ask one section at a time to contribute prizes and this time it is the sopranos (we will combine the tenors and basses!).
5. We need some **staging** to lift the back row of the choir, which we may be able to get from Stevenage Choral Society, but if you know of any other source we might use please contact Isla. We may also need some help in getting the staging to the church so if you have a suitable vehicle could you let Isla know.
6. **Gift aid on subscriptions:** We can reclaim £33.84 on your annual subscription at NO COST to yourself. (You will need to have paid at least this amount in income tax, of course.) And if you are a higher rate tax payer you can also reclaim an additional £27.72 from HMRC. All you will need to do to enable us to claim gift aid on your subscription is to fill in a short and simple form. These forms will be available from Wendy shortly!

### 7. Future concerts

10<sup>th</sup> July – Christchurch, Hitchin; as part of the Hitchin festival. We will be singing romantic German music from 19<sup>th</sup> century – e.g. Brahms, Schumann and Schubert

27<sup>th</sup> November – advent music at the Village Hall, Arlesey (we have outgrown the WI Hall!)

12<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Welwyn Garden City Free Church. We have been invited to participate in a series of concerts celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.  
<http://www.freechurchwgc.org.uk/default.asp>

***Can people who perform with other groups please check that there are no clashes?***

## **8. Music for future concerts**

At the next rehearsal I shall be passing round a sheet to collect ideas for music for these concerts. I will ask:

- What music you would love to sing;
- What music you would like to sing;
- And what music you don't want to sing.

We can't guarantee to use all your ideas but we will be having a meeting with John and Kate to discuss them as we prepare our future repertoire.

9. John and Isla are performing **Gluck: Orfeo and Euridice** with the Cannon Scholars at St John's Smith Square on 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30. You can find further details at:

[http://www.sjss.org.uk/pages/Diary/content\\_page1\\_1.htm](http://www.sjss.org.uk/pages/Diary/content_page1_1.htm)

10. As you probably know **Kate and Bob are off to Hong Kong** shortly as Kate is adjudicating in a competition. They need someone to stay in the house and look after the animals for the periods 7<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March, and 25<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April. Please let them know of anyone who might be interested? They'd be happy to have a student/teenager, as long as they are responsible. We will still be using Edgeworth House for our rehearsals whilst they are away.

11. **Contact details** I am also going to be away for just over two weeks from 17<sup>th</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March. This was planned before we changed the concert date so unfortunately I can not now be with you. I will send another newsletter just before I leave with up to date news but if you need to contact anyone whilst I am away (other than your section rep) you can email to Brenda at [brendasutton@btinternet.com](mailto:brendasutton@btinternet.com), or phone her in an emergency on 07786 093761.

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